**REMARKS**

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 12, 15, 16, 19, 23 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,555) in view of Sciammarella (U.S. Patent No. 6,081,266).

Claims 5, 13, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazaki, Sciammarella and further in view of Yamagami (U.S. Patent No. 6,334,025).

Claims 6, 14 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazaki in view of Sciammarella, Yamagami and further in view of Hilpert, (U.S. Patent No. 6,469,712).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazaki in view of Sciammarella, and further in view of Tarabella (U.S. Patent No. 5,796,945).

The claims are amended, and, thus, the pending claims remain for reconsideration, which is requested. No new matter has been added.

The independent claims are 1, 9, 16, 19-23 and 32.

1-2) Feature of the claim amendments:

The language of claim 1 is amended to clarify the features of calculating respective distances between each of the display positions of the plurality of video images and cursor display position, and deciding respective volumes of audio data for the plurality of video images displayed simultaneously on the display device based on each of distance information outputting respective audio data to an output device simultaneously, namely amended claim 1 requires "***calculating respective distances between each of the display positions of ~~said~~ the plurality of video images and a cursor display position based on each center position information of ~~said~~ the plurality of video images and center position information of the displayed cursor***, and generating ***respective distance information***; deciding ***respective volumes*** ~~volume~~ of audio data ***for ~~said~~the plurality of video images displayed simultaneously on the display device based on each~~the*** ***distance information generated by ~~said~~ the distance information generating means, and simultaneously outputting respective audio data to an output device***."

A benefit of the invention is described in the paragraph number 0082 (page 22, line 25 to page 23, line 6) of the specification, namely "***sets respective volumes~~volume of said~~ the audio data corresponding to the plurality of video images*** to one of multiple values so as to be in ***inverse proportion to the respective distances*** ~~distance values~~ generated by said distance information generating means, synthesizes ~~said~~ the audio data corresponding to ~~said~~ the plurality of video images displayed by ~~said~~ the display image generating means, using ~~said~~ the respective volumes, and outputs ~~said~~ the synthesized audio data."

Okazaki col. 2, line 65 to col. 3, line, 2 discuss the audio selector 102 selects one of a plurality of audio signals. In addition, Okazaki col. 3, lines 6-12 discuss the CPU 103 detects that a pointer (a display cursor) operated by the pointing device 105 is on a moving-picture display window on the bit map display 108 and controls the audio selector 102 so that the audio signal corresponding to the picture in this window is selected. In addition, Okazaki col. 1 lines 22-37 discuss since a plurality of sounds are simultaneously reproduced by each image reproduction apparatus, the output is almost unintelligible. In addition, Okazaki col. 1, lines 41-47 discuss selectively outputting the necessary sound out of plurality of moving-picture display window ***by outputting only the sound corresponding to a designated moving picture***.

In other words, considering these Okazaki descriptions, Okazaki focuses on the point that when the output is almost unintelligible because a plurality of sounds are simultaneously reproduced by each image reproduction apparatus, intends to provide a multi-window moving-picture display method which selectively outputs the necessary sound out of plurality of moving-picture display window ***by outputting only the sound corresponding to a designated moving picture***. For this reason, Okazaki adopts the configuration that only the audio signal corresponding to the moving-picture window designated by the mouse pointer is output. Therefore, Okazaki excludes the claimed configuration to output respective audio data to an output device simultaneously, and does not disclose expressly or implicitly the configuration to output respective audio data to an output device simultaneously.

Sciammarella col. 4, lines 43-49 discuss as a result of the user manipulation, the corresponding sound becomes louder as long as that object is moved. In this description, the volume of the sound to be modified is only the sound corresponding to the graphical object dragged by a user. Considering this, in Sciammarella, audio data corresponding to the object which is not appointed by a user are not always output regardless of the position of the pointer. Therefore, it is readily apparent that Sciammarella does not cure the deficiencies of Okazaki and

does not support a prima facie case of obviousness by failing to disclose expressly or implicitly to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Sciammarella with Okazaki and then further modify the combination to provide the claimed configuration that the respective volumes of audio data corresponding to a plurality of moving-picture information is simultaneously output with the respective volumes determined based on respective distance information, namely the language of claim 1 "***calculating respective distances between each of the display positions of ~~said~~ the plurality of video images and a cursor display position based on each center position information of ~~said~~ the plurality of video images and center position information of the displayed cursor***, and generating ***respective distance information***; deciding ***respective volumes~~volume~~*** of audio data ***for ~~said~~the plurality of video images displayed simultaneously on the display device based on each~~the~~ distance information generated by ~~said~~ the distance information generating means, and simultaneously outputting respective audio data to an output device*** … ***sets respective volumes~~volume~~ of ~~said~~ the audio data corresponding to the plurality of video images*** to one of multiple values so as to be in ***inverse proportion to the respective distances***." Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and allowance of claim 1 is requested.

Independent claims 9, 16, 19-23 and 32 are amended to require limitations similar to the discussed limitations of amended claim 1.

The remaining dependent claims inherit the patentable recitations of their respective base claims, and therefore, patentably distinguish over the cited art for the reasons discussed above in addition to the additional features recited therein]]

In view of the amendments and remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and withdrawal of the rejection of pending claims and allowance of pending claims is respectfully requested.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,
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